



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 501ST COMBAT SUPPORT WING (USAFE)

2 June 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL PERSONNEL

FROM: 501 CSW/CC

SUBJECT: Safety as a Five Part Philosophy

1. I'd like to take a few minutes and speak to my personal philosophies and how they relate to safety in our wing.

a. **TEAM.** Safety is a team concept, one embedded in the wingman philosophy. Taking care of ourselves and our wingmen are the standards we aspire to. To be there when needed, to intervene when necessary, to always be the wingman for our partners, whoever they may be.

b. **HIGH STANDARD.** Standards are measurements of personal or professional growth. One measure of a high standard is safety. How is the unit doing, on individual and organizational levels? Organizations with consistently low mishap rates have a high standard of safety compliance on and off duty. I expect supervisors at every level to be a safety officer and to enforce these standards.

c. **DISCIPLINED (Attention to Detail).** Being disciplined is a personal decision about conduct and performance. Using and following directed guidance, performing the work or task, leaving it complete in every aspect of depth and detail. This is a disciplined approach.

d. **INNOVATION.** Any innovation has safety as an integral part. The evolution of a new work process provides an opportunity to look at new ways to implement safety. Thinking "outside the box", taking the task at hand in its many forms, considering who might be impacted, and how they can be safeguarded from potentially harmful operations leads to innovation.

e. **FUN.** Being safe still means you can have fun. Rules have a purpose in defining the process of how we play and compete. Success is challenging and competing within the rules of the game is rewarding and fun. Safety provides a structure and an equal playing field for all to include an environment where injuries are minimized while still having fun.

2. I've outlined an approach to safety within the wing that we can support at a level that achieves excellence. Every one of us has a responsibility to our wingman, our families, and ourselves to keep safety at the forefront of all we do.


BRIAN T. KELLY, Colonel, USAF
Commander